

Members may receive one publication or the other with their annual dues, or both for an additional charge of \$2.50 per year.

Any member who has not yet mailed back his choice, please do so without delay, in order to facilitate completion of office records and the mailing of publications.

#### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its May meeting approved the applications of the persons listed below for MEMBERSHIP in the California Academy of Sciences. If no objection the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after June 14, they will be considered elected.

##### FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

Dr. William S. Cary  
Mrs. A. V. Clark  
Mr. Frank W. Collins  
Mr. F. L. Dowsett  
Mr. Kirk W. Eichelberger  
Mr. Harry H. Fair  
Mr. Roy Franklin  
Mr. Walter E. Holland  
Mr. Lee M. Kaiser  
Mr. Ray K. Linsley  
Mr. Andrew J. Lynch  
Mr. Borys Malkin  
Mrs. Joseph Martin, Jr.  
Mr. William Wallace Mein, Jr.  
Mr. Roland Meyer  
Mr. T. S. Petersen, Jr.

Dr. Homer P. Rush

Dean Knowles A. Ryerson  
Mr. Ansley K. Salz  
Mr. J. Arnold Shotwell  
Mr. Benjamin W. Swig  
Mr. Herbert Thompson  
Mr. Daniel C. Tobin  
Miss E. Marion Warren  
Mr. Stanley H. Weitzman

##### FOR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Moody Institute of Science

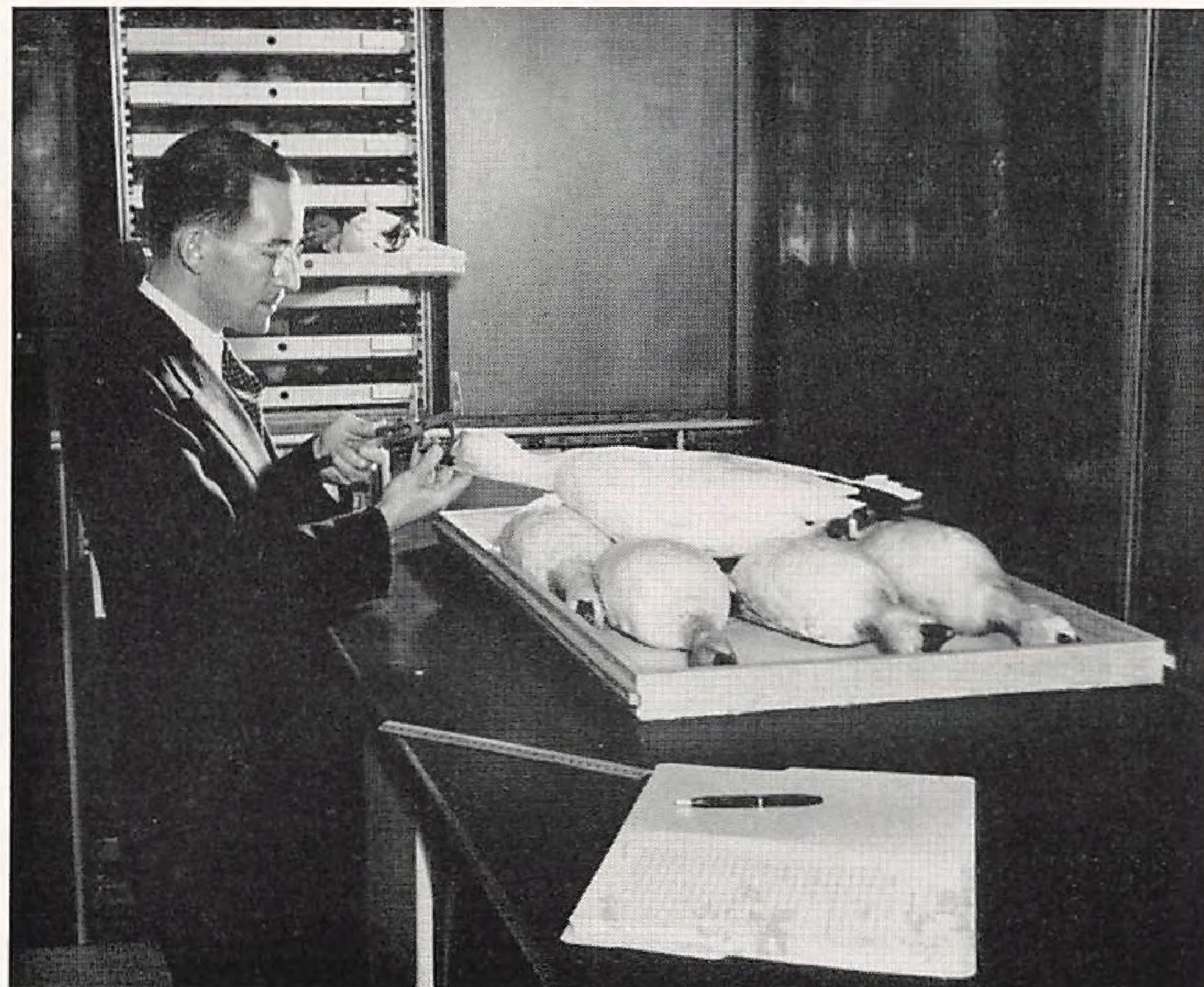
##### FOR STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Priscilla Kilts  
Beth Roberts  
Donald Stone

# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

Number 102

June, 1948



Photograph by Lionel T. Berryhill

DR. ROBERT T. ORR

(See page 2)

*Published Monthly by*  
**CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**  
GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO

# CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO



## June Announcement

THE REGULAR JUNE MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in North American Hall, West Wing of the Academy Buildings in Golden Gate Park, on Wednesday evening, June 16, 1948, at 8 o'clock. The speaker of the evening will be Dr. Robert T. Orr, Curator of Birds and Mammals in the California Academy of Sciences; his illustrated lecture will be entitled:

### WINGED MAMMALS OF THE NIGHT

If you were to meet Robert T. Orr socially or in his small but always orderly office in North American Hall, you would not be likely to connect this well-dressed, pleasantly mannered young man with anything remotely Lugosian, lugubrious, or loony—we mean batty. But if you climb the iron ladder to the belf— pardon, laboratory (jokingly referred to as the penthouse by the other curators) on top of North American Hall, and there find this same gentleman, still neat in a white surgeon's smock, surrounded by scalpels, forceps, cages of larder beetles hungrily munching the meat off assorted skulls, vertebral columns, and shin bones—and cages and cages of live BATS, why, you begin to have spine-tingling doubts. Then you catch the gleam in Dr. Orr's eye—and look back toward the top of the ladder, wondering whether you can make it down two steps at a time.

But you may pull yourself together and be at ease. You are merely in the presence of a thoroughly respectable scientist at work—a leading specialist on the order Chiroptera, the only mammals with forelegs modified into wings and possessing the power of true flight. And when you find your voice and begin to ask questions, you will soon become fascinated with these little furry creatures and learn that your fears and horrors are based upon old superstitions.

You will learn the untruth of these superstitions and the many interesting truths about bats if you come to Dr. Orr's lecture. He promises not to have any of them flying about the darkened lecture hall.

The public is cordially invited.

### MISS CROWE VACATES HER SWIVEL CHAIR

GRACE IRENE CROWE, author of "Swivel Chair Birding" in the March-April *Pacific Discovery*, and former Editor of *The Gull*, journal of the Audubon Society of the Pacific, is now Mrs. James Gordon Irving. She left the position she has held for more than five years as research assistant in the Academy's Department of Birds and Mammals on April 30, and was married in Berkeley on May 15. Mr. Irving is an artist whose specialty is painting birds. His work has appeared commercially and in bird books. The Irvings will make their home in New Jersey.

[ 2 ]

### THE RALPH HOPPING COLLECTION OF BEETLES

DR. EDWARD S. ROSS, Curator of Insects, and Mr. Hugh B. Leech, Assistant Curator, recently drove up to Mr. Leech's former home town, Vernon, British Columbia, to bring back the notable beetle collection of the late Ralph Hopping, given to the Academy by his widow.

The size of this collection can be appreciated through Dr. Ross's comments on problems involved in packing and shipping boxes of insect specimens mounted on pins. Said Dr. Ross: "Imagine pushing deeper into the cork bottoms, one by one, 97,197 pins! We did this so they would not shake loose in transit. Then we lined the inside of the Academy station wagon with corrugated packing and stowed the 411 boxes as tightly as possible, completely filling the space back of the driver's seat. The wagon became a huge packing box on wheels."

This collection will be most valuable in expanding Academy series and in some cases will furnish species new to the collection. The gift represents a cash value of over \$2,000.

Ralph Hopping (1868-1941) was a New Yorker whose family became pioneer settlers in the Coöperative Kaweah Colony in Tulare County, California, in 1891. For several years he and a partner conducted a stage line from the San Joaquin Valley into the lower Sierra and ran pack trains up into the Giant Forest and the Kings and Kern River canyons. Hopping thus became intimately associated with the part of the Sierra now embraced by the Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park.

Entering the U. S. Forest Service about 1905, he became Forest Entomologist in 1912, with headquarters in San Francisco. Having been an amateur entomologist from his boyhood, Ralph Hopping was well fitted for this work which took him through most of the western and southwestern states. In 1919 he took a position in Canada, becoming Entomologist in Charge of the Dominion Forest Insect Laboratory in Vernon, B.C. He retired in 1939 with the rank of Senior Agricultural Scientist. On his death his huge beetle collection passed to his wife, who, in giving it to the Academy, has fulfilled his expressed wishes.

### JUNIOR SCIENCE GROUPS TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE

THE ACADEMY'S STUDENT SECTIONS will exhibit their work at an open house in the Clubroom (216 Simson African Hall) on Saturday, June 12, from 1:30 P.M. to 5 P.M. and from 7:30 P.M. to 9 P.M. Two programs will be presented: one by the Juniors at 3 P.M., and one by the Seniors at 8:15 P.M., both in Room 214. Parents, teachers, and friends are cordially invited.

This will be an unusual opportunity to see the variety of natural science projects undertaken by the student groups under the leadership of Miss Joanne Taylor and Mrs. Lois Fink.

### MEMBERS URGED TO GIVE CHOICE OF PUBLICATIONS

CARDS HAVE BEEN MAILED to all Members of the Academy asking them to indicate and mail back promptly their choice between the *Proceedings* and the new bi-monthly magazine *Pacific Discovery*. As previously announced in the News Letter,

[ 3 ]